# DRIFTING TENDENCY IN DOMESTIC WHEAT

## More or Less Apathy Manifested by Prominent Interests and Apparently No Effort Made to Give Support—Corn Slightly Firmer.

New York, September 14.—There was a drifting tendency in domestic wheat markets early in the week. More or less apathy was manifested by prominent interests, and apparently no effort was made to give support. Receipts of spring wheat at primary points were larger, and as threshing returns were satisfactory a continued large movement from that quarter is expected.

It is natural that large millers and elevator owners should hold back for the time being, in order to fill their bins and elevators at low cost. On the other hand, there is nothing to be gained by supporting the market at the moment. In addition, a favorable report was expected from the Department of Agriculture, and these expectations were in some respects realized, the total crop being placed at 754,000,000 bushels, or 10,000,000 bushels more than indicated in August, and 24,000,000 more than harvested last year, although the spring wheat crop was placed at only 243,000,000 bushels, whereas many had expected 250,000,000 bushels. The moderate increase in wheat will be more than counterbalanced by the big decrease in corn, oats and potatoes.

**Effect of Other Short Crops.**

With the corn crop approximately 700,000,000 bushels less than a year ago, it is evident that consumption of wheat will be larger. It is also known that many farmers in sections where corn is exceedingly scarce and dear have been feeding wheat to farm animals. In the recent past the demand for millfeed showed rapid improvement, and hence prices advanced materially. This was, of course, partly traceably to the shortage in the hay crop and the remarkably bad condition of pasture and meadow lands, necessitating the feeding of live stock much earlier than usual. So urgent was the demand for feed that many millers found it profitable to divert their low-grade flour into feed. Hence there was a marked shrinkage in the shipments of low-grade flour from the West to the East. Moreover, it was asserted that many Western millers, who usually ship most of their flour Eastward had found it more profitable to ship down into the Southwest, where the long drought and intense heat had done so much damage. Cable advices have been somewhat discouraging, European markets being influenced by fairly big world's shipments, including a generous contribution from Russia and the Danubian region, but nevertheless there was a slight decrease in the quantity on passage. Besides, the world's visible supply only increased slightly, 3,516,000 bushels, whereas a year ago there was an increase of 9,656,000 bushels.

**Receipts at Primary Markets.**

Receipts of spring wheat continue abundant, and, as threshing has made good progress, many traders expect a still larger movement ere long. As a consequence, little effort has been made by influential members of the trade to arrest the decline. On the contrary, there has at times been rather more pressure to sell futures, especially as a hedge against the cash property. Naturally, such selling is stimulated partly by the current premiums on the distant contracts. A decided decline was checked, however, occasionally by fairly active purchases by exporters, but such buying, it was claimed, was partly of an investment or speculative character, being largely made possible by the uncommonly low rates current for ocean freight room. As a matter of fact, it is alleged that practically no export business would otherwise be possible, because Russia and Canada and other countries are offering more freely for forward shipment at low prices. It is, therefore, believed that the world's shipments will show enlargement this week, and probably for the next two or three weeks. Notwithstanding the facts described, conservative merchants feel friendly toward wheat, believing it to be intrinsically cheap as a domestic proposition. In other words, the great scarcity of corn and the lighter production of oats, potatoes, etc., will greatly increase the consumption of wheat.

Toward the close, selling was partly prompted by beneficial rains over a large area, especially in the Southwest, which will, of course, enable farmers to make good progress with plowing. The weather in the Northwest has been cold for the season, occasionally being at or slightly below the freezing point on both sides of the border, but this has created little, if any, apprehension, as it is realized that the wheat is, as a rule, too ripe and dry, even in Canada, to suffer.

**The Week's Corn Market.**

Corn markets during the week were broad and active. Large dealings, embracing active liquidation for both accounts, having resulted in rapid and occasionally violent fluctuations. Temporarily there was a tendency to buoyancy as short sellers were anxious to cover, anticipating a bullish government report. The condition given, 65.1, was virtually the same as estimated by traders, and this suggested a total of 2,351,000,000 bushels, whereas few bullish speculators had predicted less than 2,300000,000. It should be borne in mind, however, at this juncture that these figures are based on the original acreage, 106,884,000, whereas it is well known that many acres in the Southwest have been abandoned, and will doubtless be sown to winter wheat.

Therefore, it is possible that the final official report will show a still smaller total. A slightly weaker tendency toward the close was partly attributed to fairly large primary receipts, and partly to beneficial rains over a wide area, and especially in the Southwest, and notably in Texas. While this was gratifying in a way, it was not believed that the rain could possibly increase the yield of corn, but it may make important improvement in pasturage. Some weakness has been caused by uncertainty as to the effect of the proposed change in the tariff. Should the duty be lowered or entirely removed, it is conceivable that more corn would be imported from Argentina. Well-informed dealers are aware that this will depend upon the course of prices, both here and in Buenos Ayres. Should values here remain at or near present high levels, more corn may be brought from Argentina by glucose makers to be re-exported later, but, it is declared, that Argentina corn is not so desirable for domestic use as native corn, and hence none may be imported for domestic consumption unless our prices go still higher.

Oats have been slightly weaker, as the visible supply is large and the official crop report favorable, the total being placed at 1,066,000,000 bushels, whereas many had expected not much over 900,000,000 bushels. In addition, some oats are being imported from Canada. Should the duty be lowered or removed, still larger quantities may be imported, assuming, of course, prices in Canada do not advance.

# GOVERNMENT SUITS MEAN MORE PROFITS

## Subtraction of Assets Brings Additional Gains to Stockholders.

## HOW DISSOLUTION WORKS

## Holders of Reading Shares Look Forward To Juicy Dividends.

BY BROADAN WALL.

New York, September 14.—Multiplication of government suits and the subtraction of assets signify additional profits. This arithmetical result followed the dissolution of Northern Securities, the tobacco trust, Standard Oil and the disintegration of the Harriman merger. Wall Street argues that Reading assets will provide a rich profit when the coal companies are separated from the railroad system.

Attention has been frequently called to the statement made, presumably at a meeting of the directors, that "the lowest value that can be placed on Reading shares under dissolution will be equivalent to 225 for the present stock."

It is, of course, possible that the insiders may conclude to segregate without waiting for a decree from the court.

As an additional reason for expecting action to be taken at this time, it must be recalled that Lake Shore owns $10,000,000 of the common stock. Baltimore and Ohio controls a like amount. A melon-cuting would enhance the credit of the New York Central, the owner of the Lake Shore, at a time when credit is sorely needed.

The same line of reasoning applied to Steel common, and Corn Products fathers the hope that dissolution of these corporations would likewise provide stockholders with additional securities of increased value.

London has signally failed to respond to better feeling here. The English market for American stock lagged behind our own throughout the week. Differences running as high as a point and a half existed between the markets, the higher prices ruling here.

London traders sold heavily on the announcement of the extra cash distribution on Union Pacific. Later they added Copper, Steel and Reading. At the end of the week they had disposed of about 150,000 shares, including about 50,000 Union Pacific, and, although wide differences still obtained between markets, London brokers wired their New York correspondents that their market was practically bare of stock.

The public disposal in short order of the $88,000,000 of Southern Pacific marked the turning point in the stock market. The distribution of part of the cash thus acquired to Union Pacific stockholders will be a logical sequence.

In September, 1912, it proved a popular mistake to purchase securities on the government crop report, showing the largest yield in the history of the country. So, in 1913, publication of the government statistics merely confirmed fears that had already been discounted by the fall in the prices of securities.

The strength of the speculative situation lies in the absence of public interest, or, to speak more accurately the absence of open speculative accounts on the books of stock brokers It is also a fact that professional manipulation has been signally lacking.

Ease in the money markets of New York, London and Paris assures easy funds over the crop-moving period. Barely four months ago banks in New York urged their clients to liquidate their indebtedness and fortify their cash holdings, proving again that what everybody fears rarely happens.

Conditions are ripe for further advances in the price of stocks. Industrials so far have shown the greater promise. Union Pacific leads the rails, Steel the iron group, Amalgamated Copper the copper family, Reading the coal combination, Interborough preferred the tractions, American Can the minor industrial, Corn Products common and Pittsburgh Coal the lesser lights in the speculative field.

Reactions are the growing pains of a healthy young market. Those occurring at the beginning of an advance are usually short, with a sharp recovery.

Tobacco stocks will bear watching, as developments are brewing in these issues.

# DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH THOROUGHLY CONVERTED

London, September 14.—The Duchess of Marlborough, who recently entertained Mrs. and Miss Pankhurst at Deauville, has now become an ardent advocate of woman suffrage. A convert of such importance has caused great elation among the entire body of suffragettes.

The duchess told a writer for the London Budget that "to give women their proper position in the economic sphere would put an end to matrimonial unhappiness, and would arrest the degeneration of the race."

A crowd of suffragettes in the dress circle of St. James's Theatre created an uproar during the performance of Bernard Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion," temporarily stopping the play. At the moment when one of the characters says "any person who perishes in the arena is not a martyr, but is committing suicide," the women jumped up and screamed "that's what McKenna says of suffragettes."



# VOLUME OF BUSINESS LARGER THAN USUAL

## Although Trading in Cotton Is Not as Heavy or Attended With Anything Like Excitement of Previous Week—Recovers From Demoralization.

New York, September 14.—While the trading has not been as heavy or attended with anything like the excitement of the previous week, the volume of business the past week has been larger than usual and the fluctuations have covered a wider range than under normal conditions. Hence interest in the cotton market continues very great throughout the entire cotton world, as well as among Wall Street, Southern and Western traders. The feature the past week has been its recovery from the demoralization of the previous week, when there was so much apprehension over the probable passage of the Clark cotton tax bill, which provides for a taxation of $50 on every 100 bales of cotton contracts traded in for future delivery, whether for speculative or hedge purposes.

The fear that the bill would be passed and become a law with the tariff bill, and thereby practically wipe out the cotton exchanges throughout the South, as well as in New Orleans and at New York, was dissipated to a considerable extent by the action of the Senate late last Saturday evening in adopting an amendment that if the bill should be agreed upon by the House of Representatives in its present shape, it was not to become effective until September 1 next year. Rumors that the tax would be greatly modified by the Conference Committees of both the Senate and the House now having it in charge, were also effective in rallying the market from the demoralization, which developed in the closing days of last week.

**Week's Range of Prices.**

From last Saturday's closing quotations of 12.61 for October, December 12.58, January 12.49, and March 12.58, there was an excited bulge on Monday of over forty points, followed by a further advance on Tuesday, which carried prices up to sixty-five and seventy points. On this rise October sold at 13.32, December 13.37, January 13.17, and March 12.25, or within eight to ten points of the highest level reached in the stampede of the shorts and the big trade and speculative buying movement, when the crop scare was at its height a week ago on Wednesday. The development of enormous hedge selling by Southern operators and factors against the crop with record-breaking ginning figures announced by the Census Bureau to September 1, and the increasingly heavier receipts in prospect at the principal interior and seaboard receiving points, together with good rains in various parts of Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas took the enthusiasm out of bullish sentiment.

However, since the middle of the week the tendency of prices in all the markets has been reactionary. From the high point of Tuesday to the low level of early yesterday, there was a slump of fifty-five to sixty points, with October going back again to 12 3-4 cents, December and March to near 12 5-8, and January to 12.58, against 12 3-4 for May. This setback was due to heavy profit-taking and the falling off in the trade as well as the outside speculative demand. The market closed last night, however, with a net advance from last Saturday of about thirty points, with October at 12.95, December and March 12 7-8, and January about 12 3-4 cents.

**The Outlook.**

The course of prices from the present level depends almost entirely upon the character of the weather as affecting the development of the crop, especially for the top crop; also whether the world's spinners will be satisfied to accumulate the amount of cotton they will need for the first half of the year at the present high range of prices on the existing trade situation and outlook. Other matters are of secondary consideration, especially the in-and-out operations from day to day of the big spot and Wall Street speculative interests attempting to dominate the course of the market.

Thirteen cents for cotton is a full price for spinners to pay, unless assured that the yield will fall materially under 14,000,000 bales, against last season's crop of 14,200,000, and 16,150,000 the previous year. The character of the weather, therefore, from this date, and the question of whether killing frost will enter the cotton belt before the first week in November, which is the average date of such occurrence for the past ten years, are the great questions of the future which will be the chief factors influencing speculative sentiment and the attitude of the world's spinners.

**Greatly Improved Crop Conditions.**

The heavy rainfall of the last three days over Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas has been of such a general and soaking character that the drought of the last four to six weeks throughout that section of the belt has been effectually broken. At the same time, the good rains which have fallen in Missouri, Tennessee, Louisiana and Mississippi have entirely relieved those States from their recent need of moisture. In many parts of Texas and Oklahoma the precipitation this week has ranged from 2 1-2 to 4 inches, enough to soak well into the ground and give the soil sufficient subsoil moisture to carry the crops through any dry spell that may develop during the next three to four weeks. The only places in the cotton belt where rain is now needed is in parts of the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama, where the prospects up to the present time have been for a much heavier crop than those States produced last year. Good showers there and in Mississippi, with clear weather over Arkansas, Oklohoma and Texas the ensuing week, would so greatly improve the condition of the crop, on the whole, that the outlook would become favorable for a crop of over 13,500,000 bales, with a late average date of killing frost.

In the meantime, the crop brought into sight for this week is 293,000 bales, against 140,000 last week, and 259,000 last year, with the world's spinners' takings about 170,000, against 160,000 last year.

# TWO THINGS EXPECTED TO INFLUENCE PRICES

New Orleans, September 14.—The course of prices this week in the cotton market will depend principally on two things—weather condition and the spot demand. It is possible that developments in Washington in relation to the proposed legislation concerning futures trading, may arise, but that is not generally expected by traders. Precipitation in Texas and Oklahoma was heavy last week, and it is believed enough rain has fallen in those two States to last until the end of this growing season. Much more rain would cause concern because of its effect on the grade of cotton now open. Any signs of tropical storms are likely to cause heavy buying, while an actual disturbance of any severity would put the market up sharply.

The spot demand this season has not been brisk and this disturbance has been used to some advantage by the bears. The situation in the spot department will be watched very closely, and indications of a further holding off on the part of the buyers would cause renewed confidence on the part of those bearishly inclined, while any improvement in it would stimulate buyers of futures for the long account.



# CORDIAL WELCOME TO UNION VETERANS

## Forty-Seventh Annual G. A. R. Encampment Begins To-Day at Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Tenn., September 14.—Bent upon their first peaceful invasion of the South, thousands of Union veterans arrived here to-day and to-night to attend the forty-seventh annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, and allied organizations. The encampment will be formally opened to-morrow, continuing through Saturday.

In honor of the occasion, Chattanooga is in gala attire. Citizens' committees throng the railroad stations welcoming the veterans. Survivors of the Federal army are greeted with the same cordiality shown the United Confederate Veterans, whose annual reunion was held here last May.

Committee meetings and receipts are expected to occupy the first day of the encampment. Impressive military demonstrations, including a parade of the Eleventh United States Cavalry, the Seventeenth United States Infantry and other military organizations are scheduled for Tuesday. On the evening of that day welcoming addresses will be delivered by national, State and city officials at a camp-fire meeting. The parade of the Grand Army of the Republic veterans will take place Monday morning. Thursday and Friday will be devoted largely to business sessions, while sight-seeing tours to the scenes of several important battles will conclude the encampment Saturday.

The following allied organizations will meet simultaneously with the G. A. R.: Women's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Daughters of Veterans, National Association of Union Ex-Prisoners of War, National Association Naval Veterans, U. S. A., 1861 to 1865; Sons of Veterans, Sons of Veterans' Auxiliary, National Association Army Nurses of the Civil War, National Association of Civil War Musicians, and the Society of the Army of the Cumberland.

The scene of and approaches to the present G. A. R. encampment and the recent U. C. V. reunion teem with historic interest. With the possible exception of the Valley of Virginia, this section, it is claimed, stands first in number of important battles of the Civil War. En route to this city the Union veterans passed through many of the battlefields on which Grant grappled with Albert Sidney Johnston, and where Rosecrans and Bragg fought their prolonged duel. Then, too, they saw the amphitheatres in which Thomas and Sherman staged their attacks upon Joseph E. Johnston in the campaign which many contend broke the backbone of the Confederacy.

Within a short distance of the encampment are the battlefields of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Ringgold, Altoona, Resaca, Tunnel Hill and the scenes of many severe skirmishes.

**Accidentally Killed in Mine.**

Blacksburg, Va., September 14.—Harvey Crumpacker, seventeen years old, and the second son of John A. Crumpacker, of Blacksburg, was accidentally killed while working in the mines at Eckman, W. Va., late Friday afternoon. The body was sent here on the noon train Saturday, and the funeral was held from the family home, a mile from town, this afternoon. Burial was made in the private cemetery near-by. No particulars of the accident have been received here. The young man had only been working at Eckman a few months.